MONTHLY ANALYSIS OF INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT DATA New Hampshire, August 2003

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NOTE: The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) says, "For purposes of analysis, the BLS has further aggregated NAICS sectors into groupings called 'Supersectors'. The Current Employment Statistics (CES) program will publish data for these supersectors as well as sectors and detailed industries. Also, the aggregations to Goods-Producing and Service-Providing industries will be retained. The CES program will continue to classify all publicly owned establishments in government."

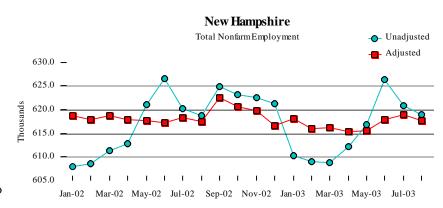
For more information on the CES conversion to NAICS, see our web site, http://www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/pdfzip/econanalys/articles/2002/NAICS.pdf.

Seasonally Adjusted: New Hampshire's employment levels declined by 1,300 jobs according to preliminary seasonally adjusted estimates for August. Manufacturing (supersector 30) headed the list of job losers with a 700-job reduction. Employment in trade, transportation, and utilities (supersector 40) fell by 500 jobs. In rounding out that list, government (supersector 90) saw its ranks contract by 300 jobs.

There was one bright spot in the August estimates as leisure and hospitality (supersector 70) added 500 jobs to its labor inventory.

Unadjusted: Total nonfarm employment was reduced 2,000 jobs in August's preliminary unadjusted estimates.

Government (supersector 90) incurred the largest setback with a 1,400-job loss. Next came trade, transportation, and utilities (supersector 40) with a 400-job reduction. Education and health services (supersector 65) and other services (supersector 80) each pared 300 jobs from their respective rolls. Construction (supersector 20) trimmed 200 jobs in the August estimates, and information (supersector 50) dropped 100 jobs to complete the downside.

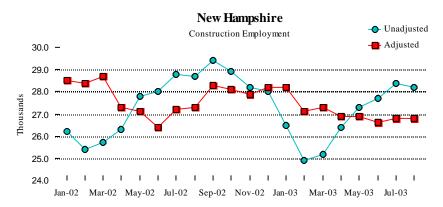


The employment levels in natural resources and mining (supersector 10) and financial activities (supersector 55) enjoyed a stable August as those totals remained unchanged in over-the-month activity.

Three supersectors found it necessary to increase the work force size in August. Professional and business services (supersector 60) and leisure and hospitality (supersector 70) each brought 300 additional workers on board, and manufacturing (supersector 30) increased its labor pool by 100 jobs.

CONSTRUCTION

Special trade contractors (subsector 238) accounted for one half of the 200 jobs lost in construction (supersector 20) for the month of August. The sample suggested that construction of buildings (subsector 236) had a greater influence on the additional 100 jobs dropped than did heavy and civil engineering construction



(subsector 237). That greater influence appeared to be found in firms that engaged in commercial and institutional building construction.

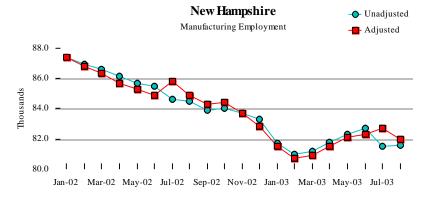
MANUFACTURING

Unadjusted estimates for August showed that manufacturing (supersector 30) employment grew by 100 jobs overall. Durable goods manufacturing added 200 jobs to its force, while nondurable goods manufacturing diminished its work force by 100 jobs.

Within the published industries of durable goods manufacturing, primary metal manufacturing (subsector 331) and miscellaneous manufacturing (subsector 339) sustained July's employment level into August. All of the remaining published industries each added

100 jobs to their respective payrolls.

Overall, the nondurable goods manufacturing employment level was down by 100 jobs, but paper manufacturing (subsector 322) increased its force by 100 jobs. Employment in food manufacturing, and beverage and tobacco product manufacturing (a combination of NAICS subsectors 311 and 312)



remained unchanged from the previous month's total.

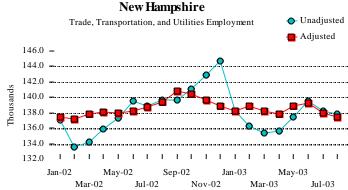
In reviewing the sample, the published employment gains were outweighed by reductions in food manufacturing (subsector 311), textile mills (subsector 313), textile product mills (subsector 314), and printing and related support activities (subsector 323).

TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES

As a whole, trade, transportation, and utilities (supersector 40) dropped 400 jobs from its employment roster in August. Wholesale trade contributed 100 jobs to the reduction, and retail trade trimmed its staff by 500 jobs. Those losses were offset by a 200-job increase in the transportation, warehousing, and utilities area.

The two published industries under wholesale trade maintained their total number of jobs at the July level.

Retail trade employment in New Hampshire had 500 fewer workers in August estimates. Clothing, accessories, and general merchandise stores' (subsectors 448 and 452 combined) accounted for 200 of those lost jobs. The number of jobs in health and personal care stores (subsector 446) and electronic shopping (industry group 4541) stayed at the previous month's totals. The remaining published retail trade industries each added 100 positions to their respective payrolls.



August estimates showed that activities in

transportation and warehousing (sector 48-49) added 200 jobs to the economy. The sample indicated that elements that are classified in the transportation division associated with travel and tourism were primarily responsible for the expanded level of employment in this area. Warehousing and storage (subgroup 493) also experienced a modest increase.

Utilities companies (sector 22) traditionally have been a paragon of stability, and that was true in August's estimates.

INFORMATION

The total number of jobs in the information sector (supersector 50) declined by 100 in August's preliminary unadjusted estimates. A review of the sample indicated that the motion picture and video industries (industry group 5121) provided the impetus for this decline.

Employment in newspaper, periodical, book, and directory published sustained the July level into August.

PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Professional and business services (supersector 60) grew by 300 jobs overall in the August estimates.

Within the supersector, professional, scientific, and technical services (sector 54) expanded its ranks by 100 jobs. According to the sample, legal services (industry group 5411) adjusted its staff.

Employment in management of companies (sector 55) was unchanged, while administrative and support and waste management and remediation service (sector 56) added 200 jobs to the mix.

It was interesting to note that inside sector 56, employment services (industry group 5613) added 400 jobs to its inventory. Business support services (industry group 5614) and services to buildings and dwellings (industry group 5617) worked to counterbalance the gains of industry group 5613 according to the sample.

EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES

Supersector 65, education and health services experienced a 300-job loss in the August estimates.

At the sector level, employment in educational services (sector 61) was unchanged in over-the-month activity. There were signs of another school year commencing as colleges, universities, and professional schools (industry group 6113) added 200 workers during the month.

Sector 62, health care and social services accounted for August's 300-job in this supersector. That job loss could not be found in the health care area as hospital (subsector 622) and nursing care facilities (subsector 623) each increased their staff by 100 jobs. Ambulatory health care services (subsector 621) held employment constant at the July level.

The sample implied that the job reduction in social assistance (subsector 624) was spread across the spectrum of the industry group.

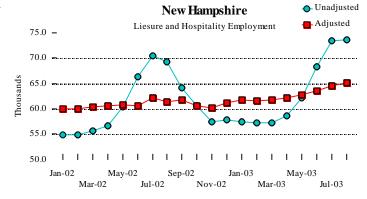
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY

For leisure and hospitality (supersector 70) this year, August represented the apex of the vacation season. A moderate

increase to slight declines in the employment level is the normal bill of fare for this supersector at this time of year.

Arts, entertainment, and recreation (sector 71) covered 100 of the 300 additional jobs in this supersector. The estimates showed the amusement, gambling, and recreation industries (subsector 713) found it necessary to add 100 positions to its rolls.

Employment in accommodation and food services (sector 72) increased by 200 jobs during the month. Food services and drinking places



(subsector 722) were responsible for the growth, as accommodations (subsector 721) maintained staffing at the previous month's level.

Within food services and drinking places (subsector 722), the 200-job increase was evenly divided between full-service restaurants (industry group 7221) and limited-service eating places (industry group 7222).

OTHER SERVICES

From the sample, religious, grantmaking, civic, professional, and similar organizations (subsector 813) was the main force behind the 300-job loss in other services (supersector 80).

GOVERNMENT

The number of jobs in government (supersector 90) declined by 1,400 in the August estimates. This decline can be found completely in local government, as the federal and state echelons of government sustained their employment totals at the July level.

Local government educational services absorbed the lion's share of August's job loss with a 1,300job reduction. Statewide, the administrative side of local government experienced 100-job drop in the current estimates.

